

Please add the following new claims:

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19. (New) The composition of claim 5, wherein the peptide is present in a therapeutically effective amount.

20. (New) An aqueous solution comprising the composition of claim 19.

21. (New) The composition of claim 7, wherein the sustained release formulation or device comprises at least one of a biodegradable polymer incorporating the peptide or an implantable osmotic pump.

22. (New) A growth-hormone reducing composition comprising the peptide of claim 1.

23. (New) An inhalable composition comprising an intrapulmonary effective amount of the peptide of claim 1.

24. (New) An intranasal composition comprising an intranasally effective amount of the peptide of claim 1.

25. (New) An Ghrelin antagonist peptide composition comprising:
Gly-Ser-Ser(Octanoyl)-Phe-A, where A is -OH, NH₂, Leu-Ser-Pro-Glu-B, or -
Ala-Lys-Leu-Gln-Pro-Arg-B, where B is -OH or NH₂; and
at least one carrier or excipient,
wherein the peptide is present in an amount effective to normalize or reduce an elevated growth hormone level in a patient.

REMARKS

Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-9, drawn to ghrelin antagonists, for prosecution at this time. Claims 1-9, as amended, and new claims 19-25 are pending for consideration by the Examiner. Claims 2-5 have been amended solely to more clearly recite the invention and provide antecedent basis for the peptide of claim 5. These amendments are not intended to modify the claim scope and do not enlarge or narrow the claims. Claims 10-18 have been canceled without prejudice to Applicant's rights to file one or more divisional